



TO 834

February 5, 1944

FIGHTING-MULES

Number 28

Greetings:

Here's hoping that all of you--across America and around the world--got back to Muhlenberg for a half hour the other night when Coca Cola's (plug) Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands saluted Muhlenberg and its Navy V-12 unit on a coast-to-coast Blue Network broadcast on the air over 175 stations. Sponsors of the program told us the broadcast was being short-waved around the world for Muhlenberg men wherever they may be.

If you heard it, you probably thrilled as we did, when an announcer told an audience estimated at 18,000,000 something about "this great institution, Muhlenberg College" and of how "Muhlenberg in its time of battle is doing a tremendous job in preparing young men of America for their time of battle."

Vaughn Monroe and his band played for the broadcast and for several hours of dancing that followed in the Rainbow Room at Central Park.

After that we dressed Alumni Secretary Wagner--the fellow who has been writing to you--in his Navy Blue and Gold, with the wave of the magic wand transformed him into a lieutenant, junior grade, in the United States Naval Reserve, and sent him on his way to Fort Schuyler, N.Y.

If you missed the broadcast and are interested in hearing it, when you drop around we'll play a complete recording of it for you.

If you took a ribbing during the football season, you can hand it back right now and do it with a vengeance because Muhlenberg is now rated as the top basketball team in Pennsylvania and, according to the best scuttlebutt, it is seriously being considered for a tournament game in Madison Square Garden in addition to the game with Temple on February 12 in Philadelphia's Convention Hall.

Fourteen wins in sixteen starts is the record to date. After that 53 to 38 victory over Villanova Wagner told you about in his last letter, the Mules cut loose to defeat the Philadelphia Coast Guard 58 to 41 and Bucknell 48 to 32. Then, on a night when Penn played its best game of the season and when Muhlenberg was decidedly off color, the Mules dropped their second game of the season 58 to 46. But they came back strong to defeat the Philadelphia Marines 61 to 35, St. Joseph's 49 to 41, the undefeated Albright 57 to 26, and West Virginia University 76 to 45.

The story on wrestling is somewhat different. There have been four starts, all of them ending in defeats. Lehigh's groaners and runners defeated Muhlenberg 19 to 13, Princeton 24 to 6, West Point 5 to 0, and Franklin and Marshall 25 to 5. Matches still coming up are with Swarthmore, Ursinus and Lehigh.

Out here at College we're getting ready for the second of those three-a-year commencements. We'll graduate another class on Sunday, Feb. 27 and receive a new freshman class and more Navy and Marine trainees the following week. Speaker at the commencement will be Rear Admiral Wat T. Cluverius, U.S.N. Retired, who has been a fighting Navy man since the days of the Spanish American War when he was serving aboard the Battleship Maine at the time it was destroyed in Havana Harbor.

Here's a special request from all of us at College: Many men being discharged from service will probably be given the opportunity to either complete or begin a college education. You, better than anyone else, can tell them about Muhlenberg and point them here. The College is on the job now, and will be on the job when the war has been won with a program better than ever before.

Dipping into the Alumni Office Mail Bag we find letters from many parts of the world.

Chaplain Israel Yost '37 reports, for example, that he is serving with an infantry unit in Italy composed of Hawaiians of Japanese ancestry, described by the chaplain as "good men and good soldiers." The infantry chaplain, he says, has a great opportunity to see war close-up and indicates that the "picture is not pretty."

The Muhlenberg calendar was welcome to Sergeant Carl F. Ritter '30, now on duty somewhere in England. The English, he says, don't hand out calendars the way the Americans do. Down in the South Pacific, Navy Chaplain E.W. Andrews '27 is looking for Colonel J. Howard Berry, '17 of the Marines. Several months ago, on a tour of the island, he met Chaplain Elmer Truchses '26 and they exchanged some notes on Muhlenberg. Since going to the South Pacific as a Navy chaplain, Lt. Andrews has conducted services for the Army, Navy, Marines, and Seabees. On Christmas Eve more than 3,000 men attended his services.

Lt. Andrew Hendryx '45 has had a busy time of it since he left Muhlenberg. First of all, he became a pilot in the Army Air Force but gave that up and became a paratrooper. On his 33rd jump he was injured too seriously to continue jumping and is now in the 56th Armored Infantry Battalion stationed at Camp Barkely, Texas. From a battleship somewhere in the Pacific, comes word from Lt. (j.g.) Richard Gottlieb '41 that he missed his father by inches when the latter toured South Pacific bases on a government mission.

Ensign Denny Beattie '43 is now the skipper of his own ship. Hours in the amphibious force are long and the work is tough, but the results and the fun make up for any such disadvantage. Major Richard W. Thompson '41 received the October issue of the Alumni Magazine on board the ship that took him to England for his fifth Christmas overseas. Lt. (j.g.) Gordon L. Williams '39 met Ensign Dan Kauffman '38 a few months ago "on the streets of a recently invaded seaport," and reports that he manages to see Ensign Chuck Keim '42 every so often. Pvt. Robert J. Brill '46 is spending the winter in England.

Cpl. Carl G. Clayton, who is also spending the winter Somewhere in England, is worried because few of the boys in his outfit know anything about the grand old game "Haas-Im-Pfeffer". Clayton was married in June 1941 and about 18 months later his wife joined him in the service. She is now with the WAC Somewhere in England. That, to the best of our knowledge, makes them the only Muhlenberg couple overseas. Sad part of it is, that the little lady may outrank the corporal any day.

Ernest Wallander '46 is happy: he has bumped into Ralph Bagger, '45 in the ASTU unit at A & M College in Texas. Lt. Col. Frank M. Brown, '19 moved with the 13th Armored Division to Camp Bowie, Texas. He described Texas as the land "of more rivers and less water, more trees and less shade, than any other land of the living."

First Lieutenant John Dry, '39 felt very much at home a few weeks ago when he ran into Capt. George Boyer, '37 while landing on an airfield in Sicily. Since leaving the States, Boyer has raised a muzzy, but Dry reports he looks alright in spite of it. The two Muhlenberg medicos spent an evening together and report that it would have been an even happier reunion if they could have had "a few good Allentown brews".

Lt. Kenneth A. Stansfield, '42, who has taken part in a number of bombing missions over Germany with the 8th Air Force, has received the Army Air Medal. John W. Downie, '42 has been promoted from first lieutenant to captain in the 100th Infantry Division at Fort Bragg. He is an Assistant Division Intelligence Officer. Rev. Victor A. Ruth, '17, formally of Freemansburg, is now First Lieutenant Ruth, an Army chaplain assigned to the Station Hospital at Camp Patrick Henry, Va. Pvt. Bernard Frank, '35, in the Office of the Staff Judge-Advocate at Camp McCain, Miss., saluted the other day when he met Lt. Col. Edward Matson '24, chaplain at Camp Forrest, Tenn.

Here are some of the moves that have been reported since the last edition of Wagner's Scuttlebutt hit the mails. Under censorship regulations it is impossible to publish the complete addresses of men serving overseas. We have those addresses in the Alumni Office and will be more than happy to send you any addresses you may desire to keep up with your correspondence.

Pfc. James F. Feeman '44
Co. A ME 1-5-3
3309 A.S.T.U.
Lehigh University
Bethlehem, Pa.

Pfc. Mark S. Reed '43
Co. E. Box 10
3305 S.J. A.S.T.U.
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Pvt. Richard C. Harrier '45
33831256
13th Co. 4th Bn. 5th Regt.
A.S.T.P., B.T.C. T.I.S.
Ft. Benning, Ga.

Pfc. Robert Krauss '40 (Army)
Address Wanted

S2/c Morris Perkin '29
Address wanted

Douglas L. Reinicker '45 (Army)
Address wanted

Lt. (j.g.) Wm. B. Harned '27
Address wanted

Ens. J.G. Hultsch '41 (Navy)
Address Wanted

Pvt. Bernard Frank '35
33827483
Office of Judge Advocate
94th Inf. Div., APO 94
Camp McCain, Miss.

Jonas W. Kurtz, a/s '28 (Navy)
Address wanted

Capt. Fred C. Lorish '37
407 W. Alvorado St.
Pomona, Calif.

Sgt. Warren S. Smith '33
33485691
25th Hqd. & Hqd. Detach.
Special Troop
Camp Gruber, Okla.

Lt. John B. Freeman '34
Address wanted

Victor A. Ruth '17
Station Hospital
Camp Patrick Henry, Va.

a/s Wm. Deissler, U.S.N.R.
U.S.N. Midshipmen School
Torver Hall, 820 Tower Ct.
Room 912
Chicago 11, Ill.

Lt. John H. Wagner U.S.N.R. '31
13075
N.T.S. (I) Ft. Schuyler
New York, 61, New York

Capt. Frederick Fairclough '32
APO 958, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

Pvt. George Woodley '44
13177423
60th Training Grp.
Class 608-8
Keesler Field, Miss.

Lt. John Dry '39

APO 512, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

Walter J. P. Kurowski S 2/c '40
P.I. School 111 U Squad 2
U.S.N.T.S. Bainbridge, Md.

Lt. Col. Roland F. Hartman '31
APO 953 C/O P.M. San Francisco, Cal.

A/C Allan Maki '44
Class 44-0 Sqdn. 24
Bks. 531 Prov. A/C Detach.
Minter Field
Bakersfield, Calif.

Lt. John Schmitthenner '42
611th Squadron 400th B Grp.
Army Air Base
Charleston, S.C.

Lieut. Col. Frank M. Brown '19
Hqs. 13th Armored Div.
Office of the Div. Chaplain
Camp Bowie, Texas

Earl Repp '43
1305th S.U.M.P. Det.
24th & Maryland Ave.
Baltimore 16, Md.

Sgt. Harry J. Becker, Jr. '43
APO 689
C/O P.M. New York City, N.Y.

Chaplain E.P. Truchses '26
C/O Fl. Post Office
San Francisco, Calif.

Maurice Horn '43
Co. A Sch. Bn. T51
Camp Savage, Minn.

Ens. Wilmer Cressman
C/O Fleet P.O.
San Francisco, Calif.

Capt. Alfred W. Dubbs '27
APO #928 C/O P.M.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sgt. Arthur T. Jenkins '42
Co. K 66th Inf. 71st Div.
APO 360
Camp Carson, Colorado

Robert Haldeman '43
U. S.N.R. Midshipmens School
Johnson Hall 936-A
New York, 27, N.Y.

Lt. W. Roger Jamieson '42
6th Rifle Plt. Class
Inf. Ldr. Instr. School
Inf. Bn. T.C.
Camp Legeune
New River, N.C.

Chaplain Israel A. Yost '37
0511005
APO 34 C/O P.M. New York, N.Y.

Lt. Louis S. Kranzley '44
783 Sqdn. 465 Grp.
McCook, Nebraska

Corp. Harold L. Knauss '42
A.S.T.U. #3873 Box 840
Univ. of Okla.
Norman Oklahoma

Lt. James E. Major '44
Hdq. Bn.
Montford Point Camp
New River, N.C.

A/C Walter A. Feller '44
AAFTD
International House Room 742
1414 E. 59th St.
Chicago, 37, Ill.

Commander R.S. Snyder '30
Dental Corps. U.S.N.
Medical Dept. N.A.S. Navy #14
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Cal.

Robert Forrest Brennen A/S '43
Temple Medical School
Phila, Penna.

John J. Meyerdierks A/S '43
Cornell Medical School
New York City, N.Y.

Charles A. Goodall A/S '43
Hahenmann Medical School
Phila, Penna.

Henry S. Trostle A/S '44
Jefferson Medical School
Phila, Penna.

Joseph I. Iobst '43
Temple Medical School
Phila, Penna.

With Lieutenant Wagner on leave of absence as alumni secretary, your correspondent changes and he goes on the receiving end of this bi-weekly letter. For the duration, it is not unusual for members of the College staff to assume jobs not normally in their own departments. Writing this letter definitely isn't a job--it's a pleasure. And it will be a real pleasure to hear from all of you in the weeks and months that are ahead.

Keep them coming and we'll keep them rolling out to you!

Sincerely,

Gordon

Gordon B. Fister
For the Alumni Office